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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC 04992-85
4 October 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, IICT
FROM: Chairman, IICT
SUBJECT: Appointment of Subcommittee on Nuclear, Biological and
Chemical Terrorist Threat

1. I have become increasingly concerned about the prospects of a terrorist incident involving nuclear, biological or chemical weapons. Although we have no intelligence reporting that terrorists are actively planning such an attack, a number of factors suggest that we should give the possibility increased attention.

2. I am establishing a subcommittee of the IICT to consider this matter. Its purpose will be to consider our data base, assess our capabilities to warn of an incident in sufficient time for meaningful counteraction, assess our capability to provide intelligence support to the management of the crisis, determine what shortfalls exist, and make recommendations to the IICT on how to correct those shortfalls. Considering the varying nature of the technologies in reference, the subcommittee will have co-chairmen: [redacted] DoE, for nuclear matters, and [redacted] A/NIO-AL for BW/CW.

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3. The co-chairmen will establish subcommittee membership. IICT members are requested to provide the requisite support. Progress reports will be made at the monthly IICT meetings and a final report will be submitted early next year.


Charles E. Allen

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